

taken a lot longer than it should have. I think it will be very meaningful.

We are happy to try to work to encourage, if there are any problems in implementation, to encourage that to be taken care of. But I think we are making a major step.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 154.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read:

"An Act to allow the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a fee system for commercial filming activities on Federal land, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 154.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

KAKE TRIBAL CORPORATION LAND TRANSFER ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 430) to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for a land exchange between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Kake Tribal Corporation, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 430

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Kake Tribal Corporation Land Transfer Act".

SEC. 2. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to authorize the reallocation of lands and selection rights between the State of Alaska, Kake Tribal Corporation, and the City of Kake, Alaska, in order to provide for the protection and management of the municipal watershed.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENT OF ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"KAKE TRIBAL CORPORATION LAND TRANSFER

"SEC. 42. (a) IN GENERAL.—If—

"(1) the State of Alaska relinquishes its selection rights under the Alaska Statehood Act (Public Law 85-508) to lands described in subsection (c)(2) of this section; and

"(2) Kake Tribal Corporation and Sealaska Corporation convey all right, title, and interest to lands described in subsection (c)(1) to the City of Kake, Alaska,

then the Secretary of Agriculture (hereinafter referred to as 'Secretary') shall, not later than 180 days thereafter, convey to Kake Tribal Corporation title to the surface estate in the land identified in subsection (c)(2) of this section, and convey to Sealaska Corporation title to the subsurface estate in such land.

"(b) EFFECT ON SELECTION TOTALS.—(1) Of the lands to which the State of Alaska relinquishes selection rights and which are conveyed to the City of Kake pursuant to subsection (a), 694.5 acres shall be charged against lands to be selected by the State of Alaska under section 6(a) of the Alaska Statehood Act and 694.5 acres against lands to be selected by the State of Alaska under section 6(b) of the Alaska Statehood Act.

"(2) The land conveyed to Kake Tribal Corporation and to Sealaska Corporation under this section is, for all purposes, considered to be land conveyed under this Act. However, the conveyance of such land to Kake Tribal Corporation shall not count against or otherwise affect the Corporation's remaining entitlement under section 16(b).

"(c) LANDS SUBJECT TO EXCHANGE.—(1) The lands to be transferred to the City of Kake under subsection (a) are the surface and subsurface estate to approximately 1,430 acres of land owned by Kake Tribal Corporation and Sealaska Corporation, and depicted as 'KTC Land to City of Kake' on the map entitled 'Kake Land Exchange-2000', dated May 2000.

"(2) The lands subject to relinquishment by the State of Alaska and to conveyance to Kake Tribal Corporation and Sealaska Corporation under subsection (a) are the surface and subsurface estate to approximately 1389 acres of Federal lands depicted as 'Jenny Creek-Land Selected by the State of Alaska to KTC' on the map entitled 'Kake Land Exchange-2000', dated May 2000.

"(3) In addition to the transfers authorized under subsection (a), the Secretary may acquire from Sealaska Corporation the subsurface estate to approximately 1,127 acres of land depicted as 'KTC Land-Conservation Easement to SEAL Trust' on the map entitled 'Kake Land Exchange-2000', dated May 2000, through a land exchange for the subsurface estate to approximately 1,168 acres of Federal land in southeast Alaska that is under the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary. Any exchange under this paragraph shall be subject to the mutual consent of the United States Forest Service and Sealaska Corporation.

"(d) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, the lands described in subsection (c)(2) are withdrawn from all forms of location, entry, and selection under the mining and public land laws of the United States and from leasing under the mineral and geothermal leasing laws. This withdrawal expires 18 months after the effective date of this section.

"(e) MAPS.—The maps referred to in this Act shall be maintained on file in the Office of the Chief, United States Forest Service, the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, and the Office of the Petersburg Ranger District, Alaska.

"(f) WATERSHED MANAGEMENT.—The United States Forest Service may cooperate with Kake Tribal Corporation and the City of

Kake in developing a watershed management plan that provides for the protection of the watershed in the public interest. Grants may be made, and contracts and cooperative agreements may be entered into, to the extent necessary to assist the City of Kake and Kake Tribal Corporation in the preparation and implementation of a watershed management plan for the land within the City of Kake's municipal watershed.

"(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section is effective upon the execution of one or more conservation easements that, subject to valid existing rights of third parties—

"(1) encumber all lands depicted as 'KTC Land to City of Kake' and 'KTC Land-Conservation Easement to SEAL Trust' on a map entitled 'Kake Land Exchange-2000' dated May 2000;

"(2) provide for the relinquishment by Kake Tribal Corporation of the Corporation's development rights on lands described in paragraph (1); and

"(3) provide for perpetual protection and management of lands depicted as 'KTC Land to City of Kake' and 'KTC Land-Conservation Easement to SEAL Trust' on the map described in paragraph (1) as—

"(A) a watershed;

"(B) a municipal drinking water source in accordance with the laws of the State of Alaska;

"(C) a source of fresh water for the Gunnuk Creek Hatchery; and

"(D) habitat for black bear, deer, birds, and other wildlife.

"(h) TIMBER MANUFACTURING; EXPORT RESTRICTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, timber harvested from lands conveyed to Kake Tribal Corporation under this section shall not be available for export as unprocessed logs from Alaska, nor may Kake Tribal Corporation sell, trade, exchange, substitute, or otherwise convey such timber to any person for the purpose of exporting that timber from the State of Alaska.

"(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act, including to compensate Kake Tribal Corporation for relinquishing its development rights pursuant to subsection (g)(2) and to provide assistance to Kake Tribal Corporation to meet the requirements of subsection (h). No funds authorized under this section may be paid to Kake Tribal Corporation unless Kake Tribal Corporation is a party to the conservation easements described in subsection (g)."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 430.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 430 provides for a land exchange to resolve a problem

faced by a town in Tongass National Forest. The Committee on Resources favorably reported S. 430 with an amendment. The bill under consideration today contains further changes to the reported bill.

The purpose of S. 430 is to protect the watershed of the City of Kake, Alaska, and to maintain the value of private native lands that form this watershed. The watershed lands are owned by the Kake Tribal Corporation, an Alaska Native Corporation.

Kake Tribal owns about 2,500 acres of land forming the watershed for a creek that supplies the city residents a fish hatchery with clean, fresh water.

The property has valuable timber, but its location on the watershed has persuaded the corporation's board of directors not to authorize logging it, in keeping with the wishes of the city residents.

Last year, the Kake Tribal Corporation filed for bankruptcy, the victim of a controversial lawsuit. As a result, the board may have to log the watershed to pay anxious creditors.

Alaska strongly supports timber harvest, but only when it makes sense. While the city of Kake has made it clear that logging should not occur on the municipal watershed, the corporation finds itself in a no-win situation and may have to log the property because of the bankruptcy.

S. 430, as supported by the Committee on Resources, offers a reasonable solution. The bill authorizes a land exchange, in combination with a conservation easement, to fulfill three basic purposes: protect the watershed lands from harmful development, maintain the full value of the Kake Natives' lands and interest, and enable them to generate revenues in a way that should satisfy its creditors.

This bill is the product of lengthy negotiation and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), ranking Democrat, and his staff; and I would commend all of them for their sound advice and assistance.

S. 430 is a practical solution to a present problem affecting a small town in the Nation's largest national forest. I urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation as amended by the Committee on Resources. At issue here is a bankrupt Alaska Native village corporation which is unable to log 2,500 acres of its lands which are adjacent to the community of Kake in southeast Alaska. Most of the corporation's 23,000-plus acres of lands have already been intensely logged, and the remaining uncut lands provide the watershed for the Kake residents and habitat for salmon and black bears.

In settlement of the 1984 lawsuit brought because logging operations were polluting the community's drinking water, the Kake Corporation and the city of Kake agreed not to allow additional logging in the watershed lands.

As passed by the Senate, S. 430 would have forced the Forest Service to exchange additional lands from the Tongass National Forest to the Kake Corporation. The administration has opposed this legislation. We share their concerns and do not think that the national forest should serve as a land bank to be drawn upon whenever Native corporations face financial problems and want new Federal lands containing old-growth timber.

But this bill has been greatly improved by the committee amendment and working closely together.

Instead of Tongass National Forest lands being conveyed out of public ownership as set forth in the Senate bill, the State of Alaska will now participate in the resolution of a local problem by exchanging State selected lands with the Kake Corporation.

The 1,430 acres obtained from Kake Corporation will, in turn, be transferred by the State of Alaska to the city of Kake to protect the municipal watershed. The amended bill also authorizes the purchase using funds to be appropriated by Congress of a conservation easement for an additional 1,127 acres of Kake Corporation-owned lands within the municipal watershed.

Under the conservation easement, these lands would be managed by the Southeast Alaska Land Trust to assure clean drinking water for the residents of Kake and to provide a fish and wildlife reserve for black bear and salmon.

Mr. Speaker, I especially want to recognize the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), the chairman of the Committee on Resources, for his pragmatic approach in this legislation.

The Kake Tribal Corporation, the U.S. Forest Service, Alaska Governor Tony Knowles, and the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council all deserve credit for their efforts to negotiate a constructive resolution in this matter.

I urge all Members to support S. 430, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, I have no requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 430, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FEDERAL COURTS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1752) to make improvements in the operation and administration of the Federal courts, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1752

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Federal Courts Improvement Act of 2000".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

TITLE I—JUDICIAL FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

- Sec. 101. Transfer of retirement funds.
- Sec. 102. Judiciary Information Technology Fund.
- Sec. 103. Bankruptcy fees.
- Sec. 104. Disposition of miscellaneous fees.
- Sec. 105. Repeal of statute setting Court of Federal Claims filing fee.
- Sec. 106. Technical amendment relating to the treatment of certain bankruptcy fees collected.
- Sec. 107. Increase in fee for converting a chapter 7 or chapter 13 bankruptcy case to a chapter 11 bankruptcy case.
- Sec. 108. Increase in chapter 9 bankruptcy filing fee.
- Sec. 109. Creation of certifying officers in the judicial branch.
- Sec. 110. Fee authority for technology resources in the courts.

TITLE II—JUDICIAL PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS

- Sec. 201. Extension of statutory authority for magistrate judge positions to be established in the district courts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Sec. 202. Magistrate judge contempt authority.
- Sec. 203. Consent to magistrate judge authority in petty offense cases and magistrate judge authority in misdemeanor cases involving juvenile defendants.
- Sec. 204. Savings and loan data reporting requirements.
- Sec. 205. Place of holding court in the Eastern District of Texas.
- Sec. 206. Federal substance abuse treatment program reauthorization.
- Sec. 207. Membership in circuit judicial councils.
- Sec. 208. Sunset of Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plans.
- Sec. 209. Technical bankruptcy correction.
- Sec. 210. Authority of presiding judge to allow media coverage of court proceedings.

TITLE III—JUDICIARY PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION, BENEFITS, AND PROTECTIONS

- Sec. 301. Disability retirement and cost-of-living adjustments of annuities for territorial judges.
- Sec. 302. Federal Judicial Center personnel matters.
- Sec. 303. Judicial administrative officials retirement matters.
- Sec. 304. Judges' firearms training.